BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL GUIDELINES

Environmental Health & Safety (EHS) provides biohazardous material waste service to the Concordia community. Disposal of biohazardous waste is free of charge to internal departments, provided the biohazardous waste is presented properly. Due to the nature of this material, respecting disposal procedures is mandatory to collect and dispose of biohazardous waste safely and efficiently.

1. The following biohazard waste containers are provided by EHS and should only be used for specific types of biohazardous waste:
   - **4L yellow container**: sharps (needles, syringes, scalpels, Pasteur pipets, slides)
   - **20L red pails**: anatomical waste only (animal tissues or items contaminated with animal tissues)
   - **Grey bins with yellow bag**: non-anatomical waste only (fixed tissues, items contaminated with blood or body fluids, plastic pipets or tips)
   - **NO** anatomical waste / animal carcasses / animal body parts
   - **NO** loose sharps, needles or slides or breakable glassware

   ![Other types of containers can also be accepted as long as they are identified with the biohazard warning symbol and are designed for biohazard material disposal.](image)

2. **Waste containers – Loyola Campus**: 4L sharps containers can be obtained from the Central Chemistry Store (SP 132.02). The red pails and grey bins can be obtained by contacting EHS at hazardouswaste@concordia.ca

3. **Waste containers – SGW Campus**: All biohazard waste containers can be obtained by contacting EHS at hazardouswaste@concordia.ca

4. Properly store the biohazardous waste containers within the lab or room area until ready for disposal.

5. To protect everyone from unnecessary exposure, biohazardous waste must never be disposed of with regular waste.
6. Do not overfill biohazard waste containers; do not try to compact waste inside the container.

7. Sharps (needles, syringes, scalpel, blades, Pasteur pipettes, and broken glass) contaminated with biohazardous material are to be collected in puncture-proof biohazardous waste containers. Needles should not be bent, sheared, recapped, removed from the syringe or placed in regular garbage.

8. Animal carcasses must be placed in bags and then placed in the designated biohazardous freezer located in CSBN. Any material placed in the biohazardous freezer must be recorded in the freezer log book.

9. **Chemical Disinfection**: Cell culture waste can be destroyed by mixing with water and bleach to a final concentration of 10% v/v (5,000 ppm) and letting them sit in a capped container for 1 hour at room temperature (or use other decontamination solution as per dedicated SOP). Once disinfected, the waste can be dumped down the sink in a chemical hood with fresh tap water running for a few minutes after dumping the bleached waste.

10. **Autoclaving**: Biohazardous waste that has been autoclaved can be disposed of as regular garbage. Place the autoclave bag inside a regular garbage bag and seal the bag.

11. Send the information for pick-up by e-mail to hazardouswaste@concordia.ca

12. Make sure all waste containers are sealed properly to avoid contamination outside the working area once the containers are being picked-up.

13. Clearly identify any containers that contain animal carcasses.

14. Regular biohazardous waste pick-ups are scheduled:
   a. **Loyola Campus** - every Tuesday and Thursday
   b. **SGW Campus** - every Thursday
   c. **CSBN Freezer** - every second week

**Questions or inquiries:**
Environmental Health & Safety (EHS)
514-848-2424 ext. 4877
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